



City of Gaithersburg Press Release

Contact: Public Information Director
City of Gaithersburg
301-258-6310
cityhall@gaithersburgmd.gov

For Immediate Release

Nominations Sought for 2021 Environmental Awards

Gaithersburg, MD (January 4, 2021) Nominations are now being accepted for the City of Gaithersburg 2021 Environmental Awards. This annual program recognizes individuals and groups for their commitment to the environment.

City residents, businesses, neighborhood associations, and organizations within Gaithersburg's City limits are eligible. Schools and entities whose student body or membership is comprised of at least 10 percent City residents may also apply. Individuals or organizations that do not meet these requirements but have provided a significant benefit to City of Gaithersburg residents are eligible for a "Green Friend of Gaithersburg" award.

Award winners will have demonstrated outstanding efforts to improve Gaithersburg's environment. Achievement Awards are given for new voluntary initiatives and/or certifications within calendar year 2020. Appreciation Awards recognize continuing efforts beyond regulatory requirements. Winners are selected by the City of Gaithersburg's Environmental Affairs Committee. This year the Committee is particularly interested to see examples of activities that demonstrate commitment to environmental stewardship by overcoming challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Other examples of environmentally friendly initiatives include but are not limited to:

- Use of integrated pest management to minimize the use of chemical pesticides and herbicides
- Pollution prevention and green purchasing
- Expansion of source reduction, reuse, and recycling efforts
- Implementation of bicycle and sidewalk projects
- Expansion of green space
- Protection and enhancement of urban wildlife
- Energy and water conservation measures
- Tree planting and management
- Invasive species management
- Stream monitoring and restoration
- Neighborhood stewardship of local natural resources
- Environmental education
- Creation of baseline information on quality and quantity of natural resources
- Promotion of green building
- Proper pet waste and litter disposal

- Environmental management system implementation
- Greenhouse gas emissions reductions
- Generation or purchase of alternative energy
- Demonstration of the interconnectedness of Sustainability with Equity and Public Health
- Other innovative environmental enhancement ideas or projects

Nomination forms are available [online](#) at www.gaithersburgmd.gov. The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Early submission is encouraged.

The City also invites you to celebrate [Green Month](#) throughout April. Green Month Events will be posted on the City's website calendar in March. For more information call the Environmental Services Division of the Gaithersburg Department of Public Works at 301-258-6370 or e-mail environment@gaithersburgmd.gov.

###